

## SENATE RESOLUTION 190

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to recognize Coach Ruth Ann Wilson on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, this body is honored to recognize those coaches throughout the State who have spent years in unflagging pursuit of victory, thus inspiring a countless number of Tennessee's student athletes to achieve success, both on and off the playing field; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Ann Wilson of Unicoi County is one such estimable coach who, after molding young minds and bodies for the past thirty years, has retired, leaving behind a legacy of such impressive stature it is assured a place in Tennessee sporting lore; and

WHEREAS, a 1972 graduate of East Tennessee State University with a degree in physical education and health, Coach Wilson began her teaching and coaching career that same year at Evans Elementary School, where she helped organize and coach the girls' basketball program; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Coach Wilson organized the volleyball program at Unicoi County High School, and for the 1986-1987 school year, she accepted a position as an eighth grade teacher and coach of the girls' basketball team at Martin Chapel School; and

WHEREAS, the following year, Ruth Ann Wilson began coaching at Unicoi Elementary School, where she and her team enjoyed a great rapport and rivalry with the Flag Pond School; from there she went on to great success as basketball coach at Unicoi County Middle School (UCMS), where she also served as the first coach of the girls' softball team; and

WHEREAS, eager to accept new challenges, Coach Wilson led the UCMS track and field team for nine seasons, restarted the school's volleyball program in 2002, and helped reform the volleyball program at Unicoi County High School, where she recently completed her third year as an assistant coach of the high school's track and field team; and

WHEREAS, her dedication to excellence, passion for teaching the finer points in each sport, and ability to achieve victory in any circumstance have garnered Coach Wilson much praise from fans and supporters in her community and throughout this State; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Coach Ruth Ann Wilson has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues and her players; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we congratulate Ruth Ann Wilson on the occasion of her retirement, looking fondly back over the many successful years she spent as a coach in the Unicoi County School System and offering our fondest wishes for her every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.